

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : To be assigned Confirmation No.  
Applicant : Paul R. Sharps et al.  
Filed: November 26, 2003  
(even date herewith)  
TC/A.U. : Unknown  
Examiner : Unknown  
  
Docket No. : 1613370-0026 CON  
Customer No. : 007470

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Melissa McCool  
Name



November 26, 2003  
Date

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references coming to the attention of Applicants or attorneys or agents for Applicants which are or may be material to the examination of the subject application, Attorneys for Applicants hereby invite the Examiner's attention to the reference(s) listed on the accompanying PTO Form SB/08A and SB/08B.

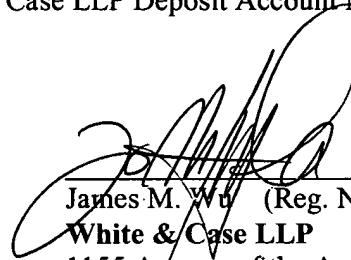
Identification of references listed on the attached PTO form is not to be construed as an admission of Applicants or attorneys for Applicants that such references are material or available as prior art against the subject application. The right is reserved to antedate any item in accordance with standard procedure.

This submission is understood to complement the results of the Examiner's own independent search. The submission should not be construed as a representation that a search was made, or that the cited items are inclusive of all the relevant and material citations that may be available publicly.

Copies of the cited reference(s) are enclosed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the attached references and that they be made of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

Applicants believe that there is no fee due in connection with the filing fee of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge White & Case LLP Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: November 26, 2003



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	To be assigned
		Filing Date	November 12, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Paul R. Sharps
		Art Unit	Unknown
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	1613370-0026 CON

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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